



# COMMUNITY NEWS

District 3

Vol 11. Scottsdale Police Department District 3 Station 20363 N. Pima Rd. Scottsdale, AZ 85255 (480) 312-8800 July 2005

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### Automobile Theft Protection

by Officer Jason Glenn

In Arizona a vehicle theft occurs every nine minutes and 21 seconds. Arizona has become the number one state in the nation for auto thefts per capita. Since January 1, 2005 there have been 554 auto thefts in the City of Scottsdale. Six hundred fifteen if you include the 61 attempted auto thefts. During the same time period there have been 146 auto thefts in District 3 alone.

Auto thefts cost victims time and money. Auto thefts drive up insurance premiums, and many times stolen vehicles are used to commit other crimes. Auto thefts tend to occur with greater frequency where large numbers of cars are parked for extended periods of time. Examples of these locations are shopping malls, movie theaters, apartment communities, and sporting events. Auto thefts can occur at any time, day or night. Awareness is the first step in protecting your vehicle from being stolen. The second step is to take precautionary measures to protect your vehicle. Precautionary measures can minimize your chances of becoming a victim of auto theft.

I have listed several tips below on how to protect your vehicle from a potential auto thief.

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## MESSAGE FROM COMMANDER DUGGAN



Our fifth operational goal, *maintain the integrity, quality and effectiveness of policing services*, is our final District objective. We are committed to ensuring District 3 remains a safe community where people want to live and work by providing the most highly equipped and trained officers to help meet your needs.

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This past month we were reminded once again about the ever-present threat of wild land fires. A lightning strike north of the Desert Mountain community ignited a fire that has scorched over 200,000 acres. The Cave Creek Complex fire continues to burn northwards as communities south of the fire are no longer at risk.

Please protect your property against fast moving wild land fires and call the **Scottsdale Fire Department at (480) 312-FIRE (3473)** to schedule a free brush safety inspection.

Commander Sean Duggan  
(480) 312-8803  
sduggan@scottsdaleaz.gov

## Fast Facts



For current information on the status of the Cave Creek Complex Fire please call the Southwest Area Type 1 Incident Management Team hotline at (480) 437-1422 or by email at [fireteam-sw.com/whitney/cavecreek](mailto:fireteam-sw.com/whitney/cavecreek).



## Automobile Theft Protection (continued)

### Precautionary Measures

First and foremost lock your car. Half of all vehicles stolen are left unlocked.

Take your keys. Nearly 20% of all vehicles stolen have the keys inside.

Park in well-lit areas, including your driveway. Ensure you have proper lighting outside of your residence. Auto thefts occur at night more than 50% of the time. Remove your garage door opener from your vehicle if you are parking in your driveway.

Park in attended lots. Car thieves do not like witnesses.

Do not leave your vehicle running unattended even for a minute. Gas stations, banks, and convenience stores are common locations for auto-thefts.

Do not leave valuables in plain view. Remove laptops, golf clubs, shopping bags, and personal items from your vehicle.

Do not hide a spare set of keys in your car. The pros know where to look.

If you have a garage, utilize it. Make sure you lock the vehicle door and the garage door.

VIN etching- the vehicle identification number of your vehicle is etched on windows and/or major parts to make them easier to trace.

### Anti-Theft Systems

- Audible alarms
- Steering wheel locks
- Steering column collars
- Protective laminate windows
- Tire locks
- Theft deterrent decals-such as the AATA's Watch Your Car program ([www.watchyourcar.com](http://www.watchyourcar.com))

### District 3's Top Ten Stolen Vehicles in 2005

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Honda Civics         | 6. Toyota Corollas      |
| 2. Ford F250 P/Us       | 7. Dodge Caravans       |
| 3. Honda Accords        | 8. Dodge Ram P/Us       |
| 4. Chevy Silverado P/Us | 9. Wells Cargo Trailers |
| 5. Ford F150 P/Us       | 10. Nissan Altimas      |

If you would like any additional information on crime prevention or auto-theft protection please do not hesitate to contact me at (480) 312-8802 or e-mail me at [jglenn@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:jglenn@scottsdaleaz.gov).

## CRIME TREND

### Auto Thefts

After analyzing the last 71 auto theft reports that occurred in District 3 from April 1, 2005 to June 27, 2005, the following trends are evident:

- Auto thefts generally occur during weekdays with Wednesday (26%) and Monday (16%) having the highest concentrations.
- Residential buildings are the most common locations for auto thefts, with the greatest concentrations found at residences (28%) and apartment communities (13%).
- Unlocked entries or entry with a key account for 28% of the reports.

## Calendar of Events

### Scottsdale Fire Department service begins July 1

Scottsdale Municipal Fire Department began serving the city on July 1. Here is a list of some of the new contact numbers.

Emergencies- Dial 911

Non-Emergency- (480) 312-8911

Administrative offices- (480) 312-8000

Public Education- (480) 312-FIRE

Please visit [www.scottsdalefd.com](http://www.scottsdalefd.com)

Mighty Mud Mania is July 29

Celebrate 30 years of Mighty Mud Mania for kids one through 13. The event runs from 8:30am to 2:00pm at Chaparral Park 5401 N. Hayden Road. Call (480) 312 2704 for more information.

## The Scottsdale Police Department



### Wants you!

The Scottsdale Police Department has excellent job opportunities in the following fields: Police Officer, Police Aide, Communications, Detention Officers, Crime Lab, Records, and Crime Scene Specialists. Visit our website at [www.scottsdalepd.com](http://www.scottsdalepd.com) or contact Officer Greg Carlin at (480) 312-5384 or at [gcarlin@scottsdaleaz.gov](mailto:gcarlin@scottsdaleaz.gov).